



State of Wisconsin  
Department of Public Instruction  
Elizabeth Burmaster, State Superintendent

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\*\*\*NEWS RELEASE\*\*\*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DPI 2008-53

Monday, March 17, 2008

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### Burmaster awards STEM grants

*Thirteen school districts in Wisconsin to share \$61,500*

MADISON—State Superintendent Elizabeth Burmaster awarded 13 Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) grants to school districts throughout Wisconsin. The competitive grants, ranging in amounts from \$4,220 to \$4,900, were implemented to help school districts develop innovative instructional programs in the STEM categories and increase student academic achievement in these fields.

“Research shows that many of Wisconsin’s fastest growing careers, from health care to software engineering, require training in the STEM fields,” Burmaster said. “These STEM grants will provide students with experiences and skills that will help them succeed as they continue their education and enter the workforce.”

The STEM grants will support programs and activities in the following school districts

- Ashland School District, *Middle School Female STEM Career Conference*, \$4,220;
- Elkhorn Area School District, *Introducing Biotechnology*, \$4,763;
- Ellsworth Community School District, *STEM for Ellsworth Females*, \$4,900;
- Elmbrook School District, *Environmental Conservation*, \$4,845;
- Kettle Moraine School District, *Girls Robotics*, \$4,900;
- Madison Metropolitan School District, *Producers, Consumers, and Saprophytes*, \$4,900;
- Milwaukee Public Schools, *Envivo LCTV*, \$4,900;
- North Crawford School District, *Science Exploration Enrichment*, \$4,555;
- Oconto Falls School District, *Summer Science Technology Engineering Math Academy*, \$4,900;
- Solon Springs School District, *Middle School Female STEM Career Conference*, \$4,220;
- Waukesha School District, *Promoting STEM through Robotics*, \$4,879;
- Wilmot UHS District, *Girls on the Move*, \$4,900; and
- Winter School District, *STEM: Opportunities to Learn*, \$4,618.

(more)

“Our New Wisconsin Promise to provide a quality education to every child means we must prepare our children with the 21st century skills they will need to compete in our increasingly interconnected global economy,” Burmaster said. “To effectively prepare our students for life after high school, our public schools must take the lead, and this STEM initiative is just one of the ways we are leading the way.”

Burmaster made a request in the 2007-09 state budget to fund grants to enhance STEM education in Wisconsin through innovative instruction and efforts that close the participation and achievement gaps among students of color, economically disadvantaged students, and their peers. The grants are to focus efforts on pupils that are typically under-represented in the STEM areas, including females, students of color, English-language learners, students with disabilities, and economically disadvantaged students. Funds from this year’s grants are for projects to be completed by June 30.

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